# Deepening Prose Comprehension by Incremental Knowledge Augmentation From References

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*Abstract*— Humans read references to gain a better understanding of a topic. In this paper, we propose a system that tries to mimic the human reading process for a given prose. The system can accommodate a deep prose comprehension by discovering the relevant parts from a reference related to the given prose that connect and illuminate a set of learnable concepts from the prose by adding direct meaningful knowledge paths among them. We present an evaluation model to measure the acquired knowledge and the learning process obtained by the system. The analysis of the results verifies that the system succeeded in deepening the prose comprehension.

Keywords— Prose comprehension; Graph mining; Illuminated Semantic Graph; Knowledge paths; Sub Set Spanning.

## I. INTRODUCTION

Prose comprehension is an intriguing cognitive process [1]. Sophisticated prose is often rich with specialized concepts and terminologies that are sensitive and difficult for inexperienced readers to comprehend. This is observed in readings in many domains such as science and technology. Additionally, it is believed that the process of prose comprehension involves the integration of concepts with significant external knowledge, which is often called prior knowledge [2][3]. However, readers have different levels of prior knowledge, or sometimes they might not even have prior knowledge about a specific topic. Therefore, they need help through knowledge of full resources that allows them to compensate for the lack of prior knowledge [4]. However, the extensive number of references might have been a problem in itself. Readers might struggle to keep up with the type and the large amount of references, which can easily be disturbing. Additionally, searching for the relevant needed parts in the references is too extensive and time-consuming.

There is a great deal of work that tried to deepen understanding from prose by explicating the relationship among the text concepts [2][3][5], while there is another group of studies that employs external references to achieve deep comprehension [6][7][1]. The goal of this study is to present a method to develop our previous work [6]. In this paper, we present a method that reads the relevant parts from an external reference related to the given prose and discovers the direct knowledge paths connecting a set of learnable prose concepts. The main contributions of the paper are the following: First, we introduce an algorithm that reads the most appropriate parts from an external reference, such as Wikipedia, Encyclopedia, and textbooks and connects a set of learnable prose concepts by discovering the direct meaningful knowledge paths among them. Second, we present an evaluation model to be used by the system to measure the quantitative insight of the obtained knowledge and the learning process. Finally, we conduct three experiments on three texts of prose to assess and validate the effectiveness of the system.

The rest of the paper is structured as follows. Section II provides an overview of the related work. The main definitions and the overview of the system are presented in Section III. Section IV presents details of the used evaluation model. In Section V, we present the experiment and the evaluation results. The conclusion and the future work are presented in Section VI.

## II. REALATED WORK

There has been several interesting studies on text comprehension. Some that focuses on knowledge-dense texts has highlighted deepening the understanding from the text itself, while others have focused on deepening the understanding using external consultation. Some of the most influential works on deepening text comprehension were introduced by Hardas and Khan. In [5], they posed the problem as a computational learning model in reading comprehension of natural texts that can mimic the growth of knowledge network as a step-by-step process of classification between recognized and unrecognized concepts during sentence-by-sentence reading. Later, using the computational model, they explored the impact of the concepts sequence on comprehension during reading [2]. Recently, Al Madi and Khan [3] developed the computational model to accommodate both text and multimedia comprehension. In the area of deepening the comprehension using external consultation, Babour and her associates addressed the problem of deepening text comprehension by bringing knowledge from more than one reference [7]. They proposed an automated method that iteratively selects a relevant reference to a given text that illuminates the text concepts by adding new knowledge paths using the selected relevant reference and ontology engine [6][7]. Later, they introduce a novel method that mines the appropriate parts from the relevant reference, which is valuable in deepening the comprehension by discovering the highest familiarity knowledge paths that connect a set of text concepts [1].

It would be relevant to discuss additional studies from graph mining perspective, which are relevant to the technique we have developed. Jin and his associates [8] proposed a graph-based retrieval model to detect a coherent chain between two given concepts across text documents. In [9], Faloutsos and his associates developed a method that extracts a connected subgraph connecting two given nodes using electrical flow; whereas, Sozio and Gionis [10] proposed a method that extracts a compact subgraph of densely connected nodes by maximizing the minimum degree.

The work in this paper is about the same problem discussed in [1], but the difference is that our method is based on extracting the direct/shortest knowledge paths connecting a set of concepts instead of extracting the highest familiarity knowledge paths connecting them.

## III. PROSE COMPREHENSION SYSTEM

The purpose of the system is to mimic the human reading process by creating an automated prose comprehension that discovers the hidden relations among each pair of concepts  $c_i$  and  $c_j$  in a learnable prose *LTX* and adds knowledge paths *K* among them using the learnable prose itself and a set of related references in an *Illuminated-Semantic-Graph G*.

We define the *Illuminated-Semantic-Graph G* as a graph G=(C, E) that provides a capture of the current state of the learning progress showing the learnable prose concepts  $C_L$  and the relationships between them found by reading the learnable prose *LTX*, the relevant parts from a related reference *RTX*, and the ontology engine *OE*, where *C* is a set of concepts  $(c_1, c_2, ..., c_n)$  and *E* is a set of edges. The concept is either in *LTX*, *RTX*, or *OE* while the edge between any two concepts represents the relation between them. Each concept  $c_i$  can have one or more senses  $(S_{i,1}, S_{i,2}, ..., S_{i,x})$ , where *i* is the concept number and *x* is the sense number. Each edge connects two concepts by a specific sense of each concept and has a label selected from *L'* representing the type of relation between the two concepts, where *L'* is a set of ontology engine and verb relations [1].

We define the *knowledge path* K as a path illuminating the relationship between two concepts, which can be represented as a sequence of edges that connects a concept  $c_i$ with a concept  $c_j$  in a preserved sense, where  $c_i$  and  $c_j$  are concepts from *LTX*. The in-between concepts in the path can be external to  $C_L$ . The type of the edge between any two concepts in the path is one of the following: Synonym, Hyponym, Hypernym, Meronym, Holonym, Instance or Verbed. The first six types are from the *OE*, and the last type is defined as the verb linked two concepts in the same sentence, where the two concepts are the subject and the object in the sentence [1].

Sometimes reading *LTX* only is not enough to understand, connect and illuminate the relation among the learnable concepts. Thus, there is a need to read a reference or set of references *RTX<sub>i</sub>* to substitute the lack in the understanding. For example, given a specified *LTX* about 'Ethane' for comprehension and a list of five learnable concepts  $C_L$ = {ethane, hydrocarbon, hydrogen, gas, petroleum} in *LTX* as shown in Fig. 1 (A). The process of connecting  $C_L$  using different recources is shown in Fig. 1 (B).







Figure 1. (B). The process of connecting  $C_L$  concepts using different resources. (a) Knowledge path K from LTX. (b) Knowledge path K using RTX1. (c) Knowledge path K using Ontology Engine OE. (d) Knowledge path K using RTX2.

Table I lists the symbols and definitions used, sorted by their overall appearance in the paper.

The overall system is applied on two core phases. The input of the first phase is the learnable prose *LTX* and  $C_L = \{c_i, ..., c_n\}$  in *LTX*. The system performs the *Verbed-knowledge-paths KP<sub>v</sub>()* algorithm to generate an initial graph  $G_{LTX}$  ( $G_{i=0}$ ) representing the verb relation between each pair of concepts in  $C_L$ , which is considered the output of this phase. The input of the second phase is a selected reference *RTX<sub>i</sub>* related to *LTX* and  $C_L$ . The system performs the following algorithms in five steps each time it reads a new *RTX<sub>i</sub>*.

1) Verbed-knowledge-paths  $KP_{\nu}($  ) algorithm generates a graph  $G_{Ri}$  representing the verb relation between each pair of concepts in  $C_L$  from a  $RTX_i$ .

2) Sub-Set-Spanning algorithm SS() extracts the Msub-sets spanning paths from  $G_{Ri}$  that connect concepts from  $C_L$  with the direct meaningful knowledge paths. The extracted M-sub-sets are represented in  $G_{Ui}$  graph.

3) Merge algorithm Gmerge() in the third step, generates  $G_{temp}$  that merges  $G_i$  and  $G_{Ui}$  graphs.

4) **OE-knowledge-paths KP** $_{OE}()$  algorithm generates  $G_{Wi}$  graph representing the OE relation between each pair of concepts in  $G_{temp}$ .

5) *Merge algorithm Gmerge(*) in the fifth step, generates  $G_{i+1}$  that merges  $G_{temp}$  and  $G_{Wi}$ .

#### TABLE I. SYMBOLS AND DEFINITIONS

LTXThe learnable prose. $G=(C, E)$ Illuminated-Semantic-Graph. $C_L=\{c_b,,c_n\}$ A set of learnable noun concepts in the prose. $RTX=[RTX_{l_r}RTX_2RTX_n]$ A set of concepts. $C$ A set of concepts. $E=[e_1, e_2,, e_g]$ A set of concept c,. $L'$ a set of ontology engine and verb relations. $K$ A sequence of edges constructing a Knowledge Path. $KPv()$ Verbed-knowledge-paths algorithm. $G_{IL}$ Sub-set-spanning algorithm. $G_{IL}$ The graph of the learnable prose. $G_{Ri}$ A graph for a reference text. $SS()$ Sub-set-spanning algorithm. $G_{Ui}$ The name of the graph extracted by SS(). $Gmerg()$ Merge algorithm. $G_{win}$ The name of the graph created structure of the graph created by $KP_{OE}()$ $G_{inal}$ The final graph generated after reading LTX and all RTX. $v_{i,j}$ A verb connecting two concepts c, and c, in a sentence. $\gamma$ The maximum allowed distance between the concept and the verb in the verb relation in a sentence. $\alpha$ The inaligned function of the graph for a concept c, degree distribution. $f_i$ The name allowed length for K created by $KP_{OE}()$ $\beta$ Cluster Coefficient. $NIC_i$ The maximum allowed listance between the concept c, degree distribution. $f_i$ The maximum allowed for concept c, degree distribution. $f_i$ The maximum allowed for concept c, degree distribution. $f_i$ The neighbors interconnections coefficient. $NIC_i$	Symbol	Definition
$G=(C, E)$ Illuminated-Semantic-Graph. $C_L = \{c_1,, c_n\}$ A set of learnable noun concepts in the prose. $RTX=\{RTX_L,RTX_2,,RTX_n\}$ A set of reference texts. $OE$ Ontology Engine. $C$ A set of concepts. $E = \{e_1, e_2,, e_q\}$ A set of concepts. $E = \{e_1, e_2,, e_q\}$ A set of ontology engine and verb relations. $K$ A sequence of edges constructing a Knowledge Path. $KVv()$ Verbed-knowledge-paths algorithm. $G_{LTX}/G_0$ The graph of the learnable prose. $G_{Ri}$ A graph for a reference text. $SS()$ Sub-set-spanning algorithm. $G_{Ui}$ The name of the graph extracted by SS(). $Gmerg()$ Merge algorithm. $G_{tray}$ The mame of the graph created by $KP_{OE}()$ $OE$ -knowledge-paths algorithm. $G_{ung}$ The mame of the graph created by $KP_{OE}()$ $G_{innag}$ The final graph generated after reading LTX and all RTX. $v_{i,j}$ A verb connecting two concepts c, and c, in a sentence. $\gamma$ The maximum allowed distance between the concept and the verb in the verb relation in a sentence. $\alpha$ The maximum allowed length for K created by $KP_{OE}()$ . $\beta$ Cluster Coefficient. $NIC_i$ Degree of a concept c, degree distribution. $f_i$ Probability of the concept c, i degree distribution. $f_i$ The neghbors interconnections coefficient of concept c, or the relation type extracted from Gutenberg corpus[14]. $H=\{h, h_j,,\}$ Vector of Concept c I unination Values {a quality between 0 an	LTX	The learnable prose.
$\begin{array}{c} C_{L^{\pm}}\left[c_{l_{1}},,c_{n}\right] & \text{A set of learnable noun concepts in the prose.} \\ RTX=\left[RTX_{l_{1}}RTX_{2},RTX_{n}\right] & \text{A set of reference texts.} \\ OE & Ontology Engine. \\ \hline C & \text{A set of concepts.} \\ \hline E = \left[e_{l_{1}}, e_{2},, e_{g}\right] & \text{A set of concepts.} \\ \hline I & \text{a set of ontology engine and verb relations.} \\ \hline K & \text{A sequence of edges constructing a Knowledge Path.} \\ \hline K & \text{A sequence of edges constructing a Knowledge Path.} \\ \hline K & \text{A sequence of the learnable prose.} \\ \hline G_{ki} & \text{A graph for a reference text.} \\ \hline SS() & \text{Sub-set-spanning algorithm.} \\ \hline G_{ki} & \text{A graph for a reference text.} \\ \hline SS() & \text{Sub-set-spanning algorithm.} \\ \hline G_{wi} & \text{The name of the graph extracted by SS().} \\ \hline Gmerg() & \text{Merge algorithm.} \\ \hline G_{win} & \text{The name of the graph created by KP_{OE}() & OE-knowledge-paths algorithm.} \\ \hline G_{win} & \text{The name of the graph created by KP_{OE}() & OE-knowledge-paths algorithm.} \\ \hline G_{win} & \text{The name of the graph created by KP_{OE}() & OE-knowledge-paths algorithm.} \\ \hline G_{win} & \text{The name of the graph created by KP_{OE}() & OE-knowledge-paths algorithm.} \\ \hline G_{win} & \text{The maximum allowed distance between the concept and the verb in the verb relation in a sentence. \\ \hline \alpha & \text{The maximum allowed length for K created by KP_{OE}(). \\ \hline \beta & \text{Cluster Coefficient.} \\ \hline NIC_{i} & \text{The maximum allowed length for K created by KP_{OE}(). \\ \hline \beta & \text{Cluster Coefficient.} \\ \hline NIC_{i} & \text{The maximum allowed for concept c_{i}} \\ \hline deg_{i} & \text{Degree of a concept c_{i}} \\ \hline deg_{i} & \text{Degree of a concept c_{i}} \\ \hline deg_{i} & \text{Degree of a concept c_{i}} \\ \hline deg_{i} & \text{Degree of a concept c_{i}} \\ \hline H = \{h_{i}, h_{j},\} & \text{Vector of Concept c_{i} or the relation in figure and sociation strength between 0 and 1]. \\ \hline H = \{h_{i}, h_{j},\} & \text{Vector of connected concept c_{i}} \\ \hline dement denoting the association strength between concept c_{i} and c_{i} \\ \hline dement denoting the association strength between concept c_{i} and c_{i} \\ \hline dement denot$	G=(C, E)	Illuminated-Semantic-Graph.
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p       Cluster Coerrictent.         NIC <sub>i</sub> The neighbors interconnections coefficient of concept c <sub>i</sub> .         deg <sub>i</sub> Degree of a concept c <sub>i</sub> . $\delta$ Graph Entropy.         p <sub>i</sub> Probability of the concept c <sub>i</sub> degree distribution.         h <sub>i</sub> ( $\Theta$ )       Is the illuminated value for concept c <sub>i</sub> at a particular phase. $\Theta_i$ Phase transition.         f <sub>i</sub> The frequency of concept c <sub>i</sub> or the relation type extracted from Gutenberg corpus[14]. $H = \{h_{i_i}, h_{j_i},\}$ Vector of Concepts Illumination Values {a quality between 0 and 1}.         [H]       Is the summation of h <sub>i</sub> for each c <sub>i</sub> in C <sub>L</sub> . $a_{i,j}$ An element denoting the association strength between concept c <sub>i</sub> and c <sub>j</sub> . $\tilde{N}$ The number of connected concepts.	R	Cluster Coefficient
Image: The integration of concept c_i. $deg_i$ Degree of a concept c_i. $\delta$ Graph Entropy. $p_i$ Probability of the concept c_i degree distribution. $h_i(\Theta)$ Is the illuminated value for concept c_i at a particular phase. $\Theta_i$ Phase transition. $f_i$ The frequency of concept c_i or the relation type extracted from Gutenberg corpus[14]. $H = \{h_{i,}, h_{j,}\}$ Vector of Concepts Illumination Values { a quality between 0 and 1 }. $ H $ Is the summation of h_i for each c_i in C_L. $a_{i,j}$ An element denoting the association strength between concept c_i and c_j. $\tilde{N}$ The number of connected concepts.	p NIC	The neighbors interconnections
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$\delta$ Graph Entropy. $p_i$ Probability of the concept $c_i$ degree distribution. $h_i(\Theta)$ Is the illuminated value for concept $c_i$ at a particular phase. $\Theta_i$ Phase transition. $f_i$ The frequency of concept $c_i$ or the relation type extracted from Gutenberg corpus[14]. $H = \{h_i, h_j, \dots\}$ Vector of Concepts Illumination Values {a quality between 0 and 1}. $ H $ Is the summation of $h_i$ for each $c_i$ in $C_L$ . $a_{i,j}$ An element denoting the association strength between concept $c_i$ and $c_j$ . $\tilde{N}$ The number of connected concepts.	deg:	Degree of a concept c:
$p_i$ Probability of the concept $c_i$ degree distribution. $h_i(\Theta)$ Is the illuminated value for concept $c_i$ at a particular phase. $\Theta_i$ Phase transition. $f_i$ The frequency of concept $c_i$ or the relation type extracted from Gutenberg corpus[14]. $H = \{h_i, h_j,\}$ Vector of Concepts Illumination Values {a quality between 0 and 1}. $ H $ Is the summation of $h_i$ for each $c_i$ in $C_L$ . $a_{i,j}$ An element denoting the association strength between concept $c_i$ and $c_i$ . $\tilde{N}$ The number of connected concepts.	δ	Graph Entropy.
$h_i(\Theta)$ Is the illuminated value for concept $c_i$ at a particular phase. $\Theta_i$ Phase transition. $f_i$ The frequency of concept $c_i$ or the relation type extracted from Gutenberg corpus[14]. $H = \{h_i, h_j,\}$ Vector of Concepts Illumination Values {a quality between 0 and 1}. $ H $ Is the summation of $h_i$ for each $c_i$ in $C_L$ . $a_{i,j}$ An element denoting the association strength between concept $c_i$ and $c_i$ . $\tilde{N}$ The number of connected concepts.	D:	Probability of the concept c degree
$ \begin{array}{c c} h_i(\Theta) & \text{Is the illuminated value for concept } c_i \\ at a particular phase. \\ \hline \Theta_i & \text{Phase transition.} \\ \hline f_i & \text{The frequency of concept } c_i \text{ or the relation type extracted from } \\ Gutenberg corpus[14]. \\ \hline H = \{h_i, h_j, \dots,\} & \text{Vector of Concepts Illumination } \\ Values \{a quality between 0 \text{ and } 1\}. \\ \hline  H  & \text{Is the summation of } h_i \text{ for each } c_i \text{ in } C_L. \\ \hline a_{i,j} & \text{An element denoting the association } \\ \hline N & \text{The number of connected concepts.} \\ \hline \end{array} $	r i	distribution.
at a particular phase. $\Theta_i$ Phase transition. $f_i$ The frequency of concept $c_i$ or the relation type extracted from Gutenberg corpus[14]. $H = \{h_i, h_j, \dots\}$ Vector of Concepts Illumination Values {a quality between 0 and 1}. $ H $ Is the summation of $h_i$ for each $c_i$ in $C_L$ . $a_{i,j}$ An element denoting the association strength between concept $c_i$ and $c_j$ . $\bar{N}$ The number of connected concepts.	$h_i(\Theta)$	Is the illuminated value for concept $c_i$
$ \begin{array}{c c} \hline \Theta_i & \mbox{Phase transition.} \\ \hline f_i & \mbox{The frequency of concept } c_i \mbox{ or the relation type extracted from Gutenberg corpus[14].} \\ \hline H = \{h_i, h_j,\} & \mbox{Vector of Concepts Illumination Values } a quality between 0 and 1 \}. \\ \hline [H] & \mbox{Is the summation of } h_i \mbox{ for each } c_i \mbox{ in } C_L. \\ \hline a_{i,j} & \mbox{An element denoting the association strength between concept } c_i \mbox{ and } c_j. \\ \hline N & \mbox{The number of connected concepts.} \end{array} $		at a particular phase.
$f_i$ The frequency of concept $c_i$ or the relation type extracted from Gutenberg corpus[14]. $H = \{h_i, h_j, \dots\}$ Vector of Concepts Illumination Values {a quality between 0 and 1}. $ H $ Is the summation of $h_i$ for each $c_i$ in $C_L$ . $a_{i,j}$ An element denoting the association strength between concept $c_i$ and $c_j$ . $\bar{N}$ The number of connected concepts.	$\Theta_i$	Phase transition.
relation       type       extracted       from         Gutenberg corpus[14]. $H = \{h_i, h_j, \dots, \}$ Vector       of       Concepts       Illumination         Values { a quality between 0 and 1 }.       Vector       of       Concepts       Illumination         VH       Is the summation of $h_i$ for each $c_i$ in $C_L$ .       An       element       denoting the association $a_{i,j}$ An element denoting the association strength between concept $c_i$ and $c_j$ .       A       A matrix with $a_{i,j}$ elements. $\tilde{N}$ The number of connected concepts.	fi	The frequency of concept c <sub>i</sub> or the
Gutenberg corpus[14]. $H = \{h_i, h_j, \dots, \}$ Vector of Concepts Illumination Values {a quality between 0 and 1}. $ H $ Is the summation of $h_i$ for each $c_i$ in $C_L$ . $a_{i,j}$ An element denoting the association strength between concept $c_i$ and $c_j$ . $A$ A matrix with $a_{i,j}$ elements. $\tilde{N}$ The number of connected concepts.		relation type extracted from
$H = \{h_i, h_j, \dots\}$ Vector of Concepts Illumination Values {a quality between 0 and 1}. $ H $ Is the summation of $h_i$ for each $c_i$ in $C_L$ . $a_{i,j}$ An element denoting the association strength between concept $c_i$ and $c_j$ . $A$ A matrix with $a_{i,j}$ elements. $\tilde{N}$ The number of connected concepts.		Gutenberg corpus[14].
Values {a quality between 0 and 1}.         /H/       Is the summation of h <sub>i</sub> for each c <sub>i</sub> in C <sub>L</sub> . $a_{i,j}$ An element denoting the association strength between concept c <sub>i</sub> and c <sub>j</sub> .         A       A matrix with $a_{i,j}$ elements. $\tilde{N}$ The number of connected concepts.	$H = \{h_{i}, h_{j}, \dots\}$	Vector of Concepts Illumination
$ \begin{array}{c c c c c c } \hline  H  & \text{Is the summation of } h_i \text{ for each } c_i \text{ in } C_L. \\ \hline a_{i,j} & \text{An element denoting the association} \\ \hline strength between concept c_i \text{ and } c_i. \\ \hline A & \text{A matrix with } a_{i,i} \text{ elements.} \\ \hline \tilde{N} & \text{The number of connected concepts.} \\ \end{array} $		Values {a quality between 0 and 1}.
$a_{i,j}$ An element denoting the association strength between concept $c_i$ and $c_j$ . $A$ A matrix with $a_{i,j}$ elements. $\tilde{N}$ The number of connected concepts.	H	Is the summation of $h_i$ for each $c_i$ in $C_L$ .
strength between concept $c_i$ and $c_j$ .           A         A matrix with $a_{i,j}$ elements. $\tilde{N}$ The number of connected concepts.	$a_{i,j}$	An element denoting the association
A         A matrix with $a_{i,i}$ elements. $\tilde{N}$ The number of connected concepts.		strength between concept c <sub>i</sub> and c <sub>j</sub> .
<i>N</i> The number of connected concepts.	A	A matrix with a <sub>i,j</sub> elements.
	N	The number of connected concepts.

After reading the whole set of  $RTX_{i}$ , the system generates the  $G_{final}$  that includes a set of K, where both ends of each Kare from the  $C_L$ .

Fig. 2 explains the phases of the system in detail. The bold line in phase 2 shows the iterative process of applying the proposed algorithm with each reading of a new  $RTX_i$  for finding the direct meaningful knowledge path among  $C_L$ . Both *LTX* and *RTX* go through preprocessing. During preprocessing, all stopwords, except negation words, are removed and the remaining words are stemmed using Porter Stemmer [11]. The next section describes each algorithm in detail.



Figure 2. Overview of the system.

## A. Verbed-Knowledge-Paths algorithm $KP_{\nu}()$

Given a *LTX* or *RTX<sub>i</sub>* and a  $C_L$ , for each sentence *in LTX* or *RTX<sub>i</sub>*, the algorithm searches for any pair of concepts  $(c_i, c_j)$  from  $C_L$  to see if there is a verb  $v_{i,j}$  between them, where the distance between  $c_i$  and  $v_{i,j}$  and the distance between  $v_{i,j}$  and  $c_j$  is less than or equal a threshold Y. If so, it saves them in the form of  $[c_i, v_{i,j}, c_j]$  as an edge in the graph representing a verb relation between a pair of concepts  $c_i$  and  $c_j$ . If  $v_{i,j}$  is preceded or followed by a negative word, the negative word is attached to the verb forming one word. The output of the algorithm is a graph that represents the verbed relation between any pair of concepts from  $C_L$ .

#### B. Sub-Set-Spanning algorithm SS()

The algorithm in Fig. 3 represents the Sub-Set-Spanning algorithm as follows: The input of the algorithm is  $G_{Ri}$  and  $C_L$ , where the output is  $G_{Ui}$ , which is a subgraph from  $G_{Ri}$  that presents the direct paths among  $C_L$ . We use the same algorithm used in our previous work [1], but we replace the highest familiarity knowledge paths among the concepts with the direct ones.

The search for a direct knowledge path has been implemented as a breadth-first-search (BFS). For each component *comp* in *G*, the algorithm uses a queue data structure *Queue* to temporarily hold each visited concept in the graph with its neighbors. It picks any concept from  $C_L$  as the source *s* for initializing the *Queue*. Then, it initializes the distance *dist* between *s* and each concept *c* in the *comp* to *INFINITY* and initializes the previous concept *prev* of each *c* to -1. In the loop iteration, it de-queues the first concept *c* in the queue, marks it as visited, and checks if  $c \in C_L$ . If so, it updates its *dist* to 0, adds it to *M* where *M* holds the found  $C_L$  concepts and removes it from  $C_L$ . Then, it en-queues all the neighbors  $c_i$ 's of concept c if they are marked as non-visited, assigns *prev* and calculates *dist* for each of them. If the current *dist* of  $c_i$  is less than its previous *dist*, that means a shorter knowledge path to  $c_i$  is found. The  $c_i$ 's *prev* and *dist* are updated to the new less values and the process is repeated till the queue becomes empty. If all *comp* are checked, *getPaths* constructs the M sub-sets spanning from M and *prev*. The returned M-sub-sets spanning are represented in  $G_{Ui}$ .

Fig. 4 shows an example of the M sub-sets spanning returned by SS() algorithm, where  $C_L = \{\text{`ethane', `carbon', 'petroleum'}\}$ . The returned M sub-set spanning is  $\{[\text{`ethane', 'carbon', 'constituent', 'petroleum'}]\}$ .

Def	Sub-Set-Spanning ( ):
Inpu	<b>it:</b> G <sub>Ri</sub> , , C <sub>L</sub>
Out	put: M-sub-sets spanning.
1.	// initialization
2.	for each comp in G:
3.	Queue=\$\phi
4.	$s = pick$ any member from $C_L$
5.	enqueue(Queue,s)
6.	if $C_L \neq \phi$ :
7.	for each concept c in comp
8.	prev[c]=-1
9.	dist[c]=INFINITY
10.	Visited[c]=False
11.	While Queue $\neq \phi$ :
12.	c= <b>dequeue</b> (Queue)
13.	Visited[c]=True
14.	if c in C <sub>L</sub> :
15.	dist[c]=0
16.	add c to M
17.	<b>remove</b> c from C <sub>L</sub>
18.	<b>for</b> each neighbor $c_i$ of c:
19.	if ci not in Queue and Visited[ci]==False:
20.	enqueue(Queue,c <sub>i</sub> )
21.	alt = dist[c] + 1
22.	if alt < dist[c <sub>i</sub> ]
23.	prev[c <sub>i</sub> ]=c
24.	// a shorter knowledge path to ci has been found
25.	dist[c <sub>i</sub> ]=alt
26.	M-sub-sets = getPaths(M[], prev[])
27.	return M-sub-sets

Figure 3. Sub-Set-Spanning algorithm.



Figure 4. M Sub-Set-Spanning example.

### C. Merge algorithm Gmerge()

The algorithm merges two graphs into a single one.

# D. OE-knowledge-paths algorithm KP<sub>OE</sub>()

The algorithm searches for knowledge paths *K* of a length less than or equal to threshold  $\alpha$  connecting each pair of concepts that appear in *G*<sub>temp</sub> if found using an ontology engine. The algorithm is presented in detail in our previous work [6].

## IV. SYSTEM EVALUATION MODEL

In this section, we present a set of measurements, which are employed to assess the quantitative knowledge gained from G, including information content, graph organization, richness of information, concept illumination value, and knowledge paths.

## A. Information content

The size of the graph is measured by the whole number of concepts *C* and the associations *E* among them, where the concepts belong to three different sources *LTX*, *RTX*, and *OE*. High size is a good indicator to a wealth of information and therefore deep comprehension. The process of prose comprehension is completed by reading the last *RTX<sub>i</sub>* in which the graph transforms from ( $G_0$ ,  $G_1$ ,...., $G_{final}$ ). Therefore, the size of *G* is increased and the information is grown respectively.

## B. Graph organization quality

The graph organization plays an important role in predicting the performance of the learning progress. A good graph organization gives a clarification about the context of each concept and how each concept is related to other concepts by representing groups of strongly connected concepts each works as constrains on the possible meaning of its concepts, therefore the meaning of the concepts can be greatly clarified. It can be measured by clustering coefficient  $\beta$ , which offers a way to measure how the concepts in the graph tend to form groups of strongly connected concepts. According to [12], we suggest calculating  $\beta$  using (1); the closer to 1 value indicates the higher clustered graph.

$$\beta = \sum_{i=0}^{n} \frac{2NIC_i}{deg_i(deg_i-1)} \tag{1}$$

# C. Richness of Information

Information richness is a measure of how much information a graph contains. High information richness usually indicates a graph rich with information and deep comprehension. It can be measured by entropy  $\delta$ , which measures the amount of information within the graph. According to [13], we calculate  $\delta$  using (2):

$$\delta = -\sum_{i=0}^{n} p_i log(p_i) \tag{2}$$

Where  $p_i$  is determined by (3):

$$p_i = \frac{deg_i}{2|E|} \tag{3}$$

## D. Calculating the concepts illumination values H

The concept illumination value  $h_i$  is a way to interpret the level of understanding the concept. It presents the importance of the concepts at each particular phase. The higher the concept illumination value, the more understanding there is in the prose. The initial illumination value of a concept can by calculated using (4). This initial value represents the prior knowledge or the familiarity of the concept, where h(0) represents the initial value of concept *i*. The high frequency means the high familiarity of the concept.

$$h_i(0) = -1/\log\left(\frac{f_i}{10^9}\right) \tag{4}$$

Tracking the growth evolution of the concept illumination value during the learning progress is an interesting approach to measure the deepening of prose comprehension. We calculate the illumination value of each concept at each phase. We consider the phase  $\Theta_i$  as reading a set of sentences. Then, we estimate how the illumination value varies over the learning process through a set of phases. After a set of phases, the concept illumination value reaches a stable value which is considered its final illuminated value. The learning progress at each phase is assessed by the value of |H| which is the summation of  $h_i$  for each  $c_i$  in  $C_L$ . The higher the |H|, the deeper the learning. To calculate  $h_i$  for each concept in the graph at each phase, we utilize (5).

$$H(\theta + 1) = transpose(A) * H(\theta)$$
(5)

We will consider the association strength  $a_{i,j}$  as the illumination value of the relation type between a pair of concepts ( $c_i$ ,  $c_j$ ). The value of  $a_{i,j}$  is calculated by (4),  $f_i$  here represents the frequency of the relation type extracted from Gutenberg corpus [14], where high frequency means high familiarity of the relation type. The relation between f and h is a direct relation. This means the higher the frequency, the higher its illumination value. Table II shows different types of relations, which are common between any pair of concepts.

TABLE II. RELATION STRUCTURE BETWEEN ANY PAIR OF CONCEPTS

Relation type	Relation structure	a <sub>i,j</sub> value
verb relation	Case#1: single verb:	$h_{v1}(\Theta)$
	$c_i - : s_{i,*} - v1 - s_{j,*} : - c_j$	
	Case#2: dual verb:	$h_{v1}(\Theta) * h_{v2}(\Theta)$
	$c_i - : s_{i,*} - v1 \ v2 - s_{j,*} : - c_j$	
	Case#3: dual paths:	$h_{v1}(\Theta) * h_{v2}(\Theta)$
	$c_i - : s_{i,*} - v1 \ v2 - s_{j,*} : - c_j$	+
	$c_i - : s_{i,*} - v3 v4 - s_{j,*} : - c_j$	$h_{v3}(\Theta) * h_{v4}(\Theta)$
Wordnet	Case#1: Class/sub-class:	$h_{class}(\Theta)$
relation	$c_i - : s_{i,*} - Hypernym - s_{j,*} : - c_j$	
	or	
	$c_i - : s_{i,*} - Hyponym - s_{j,*} : - c_j$	
	Case#2: Part/sub-part:	$h_{part}(\Theta)$
	$c_i - : s_{i,*} - Holonym - s_{j,*} : - c_j$	
	or	
	$c_i - : s_{i,*} - Meronym - s_{j,*} : - c_j$	
	Case#3: synonym:	$h_{synonym}(\Theta) = 1$
	$c_i - : s_{i,*} - Synonym - s_{j,*} : - c_j$	

## E. Types of Knowledge Paths

The illumination-semantic-graph is a complex graph of concepts and associations. The graph has many interconnected concepts, ultimately leading to a congested graph. Hence, the information becomes hard to read; for example, it is hard to trace a particular sequence of edges connecting two concepts because the edges overlap. This can be clarified by extracting knowledge paths. A knowledge path is a way to reveal underlying information in the graph tidily. For more clarification, we classified the knowledge paths into seven types described in Table III.

TABLE III. KNOWLEDGE PATHS TYPES

	K types	Description	
1.	Genesis-Set	Where each label in the sequence of edges of <i>K</i>	
		has either a hyponym or a hypernym relation.	
2.	Synonym-Set	Where each label in the sequence of edges of <i>K</i>	
		has a synonym relation.	
3.	Part-of-Set	Where each label in the sequence of edges of <i>K</i>	
		has either a meronym or a holonym relation.	
4.	Conceptual-	Where the labels in <i>K</i> have a combination of	
	Neighbor-Set	hyponym and hypernym relations.	
5.	Structural-	Where the labels in <i>K</i> have a combination of	
	Neighbor-Set	meronym and holonym relations.	
6.	Complex-	Where the labels in <i>K</i> have a combination of	
	Neighbor-Set	hyponym or hypernym and meronym and	
		holonym relations.	
7.	Verbed-Set	Where each label in the sequence of edges of <i>K</i>	
		has a verb relation.	

## V. EXPERIMENT AND EVALUATION

In this section, we evaluate the proposed system based on the statistical characteristics of the obtained graphs of three experiments, which indicate the quantitative insight of the amount of comprehension that can be gained by the readers. In the future work, we are going to perform the experiments with actual readers. The selected proses  $LTX_i$  used in the experiments, as well as the  $C_L$  for each are shown in Table IV.

#### TABLE IV. LIST OF THE PROSES USDED IN THE EXPEIEMENTS

	LTX	C <sub>L</sub>	
Experiment1	LTX1: 'Ethane chemical compound' [15]	['Ethane', 'hydrocarbon', 'hydrogen', 'carbon', 'carbon- carbon', 'petroleum', 'carbonization', 'coal']	
Experiment2	LTX2: 'New Test for Zika OKed' [16]	['zika', 'infection', 'dengue', 'hikungunya', 'virus', 'aedes', 'mosquito', 'antibody']	
<b>Experiment3</b> LTX3: 'Anesthesia gases are warming the planet' [17]		['Anesthetic', 'carbon', 'climate', 'oxide', 'desflurane', 'isoflurane', 'sevoflurane', 'halothane']	

The used *OE* is Wordnet [18] version 1.7 and the used *RTX* is Wikipedia. For each experiment, *RTX* is a set of articles selected from Wikipedia about each concept in  $C_L$ . We applied the automated method used in [7] for the selection of the Wikipedia articles. For each experiment, the system goes through eight *RTX<sub>i</sub>* and creates nine *G*,  $G_0$  represents the relation among  $C_L$  in *LTX* and eight  $G_i$  each represents the relation among the  $C_L$  after adding reading a new *RTX<sub>i</sub>*.

### A. Graph Analysis

In this section, we present our analysis of the information gained from G. The breakdown of the total number of concepts C and the number of edges E in  $G_0$  and  $G_{final}$  are shown in Table V, where the concepts are from *LTX*, *RTX*, and/or *OE*. It is observed that there is a variance in the number of concepts and edges between  $G_0$  and the  $G_{final}$ , which is a good indicator to the plentiful information in the  $G_{final}$ , hence the depth of prose comprehension.

TABLE V. BREAK DOWN OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF EDGES AND CONCEPTS IN THE FINAL G

	Exper	iment1	Experiment2		Experiment3	
	G <sub>0</sub>	G <sub>final</sub>	G <sub>0</sub>	G <sub>final</sub>	G <sub>0</sub>	G <sub>final</sub>
E	3	100	1	76	0	29
Number	8	8	8	8	8	8
of LTX						
concepts						
Number	0	7	0	8	0	4
of RTX						
concepts						
Number	0	36	0	22	0	9
of OE						
concepts						

Furthermore, Fig. 5 shows the number of connected learnable prose concepts  $C_L$  in  $G_i$ , where (x-axis) refers to the  $G_i$  after adding each  $RTX_i$  and (y-axis) is the number of connected concepts per  $G_i$ . For each experiment, we can observe that the number of connected concepts  $\tilde{N}$  is increased when the system reads  $RTX_i$ . The concepts become fully connected after reading the 8<sup>th</sup> RTX,  $2^{nd} RTX$ , and  $1^{st} RTX$  for LTX1, LTX2, and LTX3 consecutively, which verifies the effectiveness of the system for connecting  $C_L$ .

Fig. 6 shows the clustering coefficient  $\beta$  observed in each  $G_i$ , where (x-axis) is the  $G_i$  and (y-axis) is the clustering

coefficient  $\beta$ . It is obvious that some of the graphs especially for the first experiment are highly clustered, which signifies that their concepts are highly clustered together.

# B. Knowledge Analysis

In this section, we present our analysis of the learning progress on *LTX* comprehension from *G* in the three experiments. Fig. 7 represents the entropy  $\delta$  per each  $G_i$ , where (x-axis) is the  $G_i$  and (y-axis) is the entropy  $\delta$ . It is observed that the  $\delta$  in the three experiments starts with a low value, then it increases gradually after reading a new *RTX<sub>i</sub>*, which indicates that the graph concepts become more influential each time the system reads a *RTX<sub>i</sub>*.

Moreover, Fig. 8 plots the variance in the concepts illumination values |H| (y-axis) of  $C_L$  with the phases of learning progress  $\Theta_i$  (x-axis) in the  $G_{\text{final}}$ . We examined 50 phases. We can clearly see from the plot that |H| increases gradually over the phases especially in the first experiment, which indicates the deeper comprehension of the  $C_L$  and the *LTX* after each phase  $\Theta_i$ .

### C. Knowledge Paths Classification

The breakdown of K types that are found in  $G_{final}$  are shown in Table VI.

TABLE VI. BREAKDOWN OF KNOWLEDGE PATHS TYPE
---

	Experiment	Experiment	Experiment
	1	2	3
Genesis-Set	2	0	2
Synonym-Set	0	0	0
Part-of-Set	0	0	0
Conceptual-	6	0	2
Neighbor-Set			
Structural-Neighbor-	0	0	0
Set			
Complex-Neighbor-	0	0	0
Set			
Verbed-Set	17	26	8

#### VI. CONCLUSION AND FUTURE WORK

In this paper, we presented a computerized human prose comprehension system that discovers relevant parts from a reference that connect and illuminate the learnable concepts by direct meaningful knowledge paths among them. The system is an improved version of our previous work [6]. The statistical results obtained from the graph(s) show that the system succeeds in connecting the learnable concepts by discovering the direct meaningful knowledge paths among them and in achieving a deep prose comprehension. For future work, we are going to compare the results of the used method with the one discussed in [1]. We are also going to test the impact of the system results on the comprehension of actual readers.

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Figure 5. Learnable Prose Concepts connectivity per graphs Gi.



Figure 7. Entropy per graphs G<sub>i</sub>.

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Figure 6. Cluster Coefficient per graphs G<sub>i</sub>.



Figure 8. Prose illustration values per phases.